

LEADING CHANGE

University of New Hampshire Library Annual Report FY2023



University of
New Hampshire
Library

Photo by Jeremy Gasowski

The UNH Library Annual Report was written, edited and designed by Samantha Bradbury Koster.



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UNH LIBRARY OVERVIEW



Photo by Scott Ripley

UNH LIBRARY: CONNECT WITH EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES

MISSION

The UNH Library supports the University's charter as New Hampshire's land, sea, and space grant institution, embraces the University's liberal arts tradition, and connects all, while embodying the values of the campus community. As the intellectual common ground, we offer services in information and data literacy, discovery of and access to information resources and knowledge, and vibrant community spaces to support the public good.

VISION

As a trusted academic and community partner for the University and beyond, the UNH Library is recognized as an inclusive, dynamic center for developing independent learners and fostering world-class scholarship in an evolving environment of services, technologies, and critical information literacies.

FACULTY, LEADERSHIP, AND NEW HIRES/ROLES

LIBRARY LEADERSHIP

Tara Lynn Fulton, PhD

Dean of the UNH Library

Tracey Lauder

Assistant Dean for Library Administration

Kimberly Sweetman

Associate Dean of the UNH Library

Jennifer Carroll

Faculty Chair

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

Samantha Bradbury Koster

Communication and Outreach

Jennifer Carroll

Faculty

Heather Castle

Circulation/Reserves

Eleta Exline

Digital Services/IT

Elizabeth Fowler

Service Points

Tara Fulton

Leadership and Planning

Tracey Lauder

Facilities, Financial, Human Resources

Pamela Lehman

Human Resources

Christine Powers

Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery

Judy Quist

Acquisitions/Description/E-Access

Elizabeth Slomba

Physical Collections

Kimberly Sweetman

Program Leads, IDEA

Sarah Thiemer

Information Access, Library Services Platform

FACULTY, LEADERSHIP, AND NEW HIRES/ROLES

LIBRARY FACULTY

Katherine Aydelott

Associate Professor, Arts & Humanities Librarian

Megan Bresnahan

Associate Professor, Life Sciences & Agriculture Librarian

Louise Buckley

Associate Professor, Social Sciences, Public Policy & Government Information Librarian

Jennifer Carroll

Associate Professor, Collection Strategy Librarian

Patricia Condon

Assistant Professor, Research Data Services Librarian

Eleta Exline

Associate Professor, Scholarly Communication Librarian

Elizabeth Fowler

Assistant Professor, User Engagement and Student Success Librarian

Eugenia Opuda

Associate Professor, Health & Human Services Librarian

Wendy Pothier

Associate Professor, Business and Economics Librarian

Elizabeth Slomba

Professor, Special Collections Librarian, Interim University Archivist

Sarah Thiemer

Assistant Professor, Cataloging & Metadata Librarian

FY23 NEW HIRES/PROMOTIONS

Samantha Bradbury Koster - New Hire

Library Communication Manager

Megan Bresnahan - Tenured

Associate Professor, Life Sciences & Agriculture Librarian

Donald Dow - New Role

Info Desk Manager

Liz Fowler - New Role

User Engagement and Student Success Librarian

Eugenia Opuda - Tenured

Associate Professor, Health & Human Services Librarian

Morgan Wilson - New Hire

Public Services Coordinator

A LETTER FROM THE DEAN

FY23 was a year of significant milestones for the UNH Library. Most highly publicized was the offering of free borrowing of physical materials for adult residents of New Hampshire, the completion of the project to digitize all New Hampshire town reports, and acquisition of the Tower Hill Botanical Garden collection.

In this annual report you will read about a vast array of projects and initiatives ranging from improving discoverability of digital collections to sustainability projects related to facilities. Behind all of these accomplishments is an absolutely stellar team of library faculty and staff with whom it has been my privilege to work for almost nine years now.



Photo by Rebecca Chasse

I will be stepping down as Dean of the UNH Library at the end of 2023. This past year has been a time of deep reflection and reminiscing of achievements as well as challenges throughout my tenure. In 2019 UNH was recognized as an R1 institution by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, and an elite designation given to universities with the highest research activity. With this designation, came concomitant expectations for the “academic heart of the university”— UNH Library. The UNH Library had to make necessary changes, including adding new roles in research data services and creating new partnerships to support these open access initiatives. The information industry’s shift away from print to electronic access has necessitated significant investment in technical infrastructure and focus on maximizing online discovery tools.

The UNH Library strives to keep pace with all of these emerging needs in spite of aging facilities and financial and personnel resource challenges. I hope in reading this annual report you are able to sense the tremendous pride our library has in the services and collections we provide every day to the UNH and broader NH community.

I look forward, as do all of you, to reading what next year holds for this tremendous research library. Thank you for your interest in, use of, and investment in the UNH Library.

Sincerely,

Tara Lynn Fulton, PhD
Dean of the UNH Library

INTRODUCTION TO OUR THEME: LEADING CHANGE

On July 1, 2021, the UNH Library implemented an innovative team-based structure that organizes our work into programs. Change can be challenging; however, despite experiencing challenges, this year has been a year of **leading change** to grow and improve our services.

This year we have seen the positive effects of working in a Program Structure such as better communication, greater transparency, and a deeper understanding of the various roles within the library. As an organization, we are more agile and able to address new challenges as they arise. While not every challenge has been addressed, we are working towards continued improvement of the structure in FY24.

The theme of **leading change** aligns with more than just the internal library structure, but also how the library shows up to serve the UNH Community. Libraries are not the quiet, head-down spaces they used to be. The definition of what a library is constantly changes and grows to meet the needs of current patrons. This change and growth is seen through expanding e-resources, providing a space for events and community gathering, displaying exhibits, offering training sessions, and so much more.

Throughout FY23, the UNH Library has made significant changes to embrace the needs of what our patrons need through space improvements, events, programming, and online accessibility.

In this report, you will see how each UNH Library program is **leading change** both internally and externally.



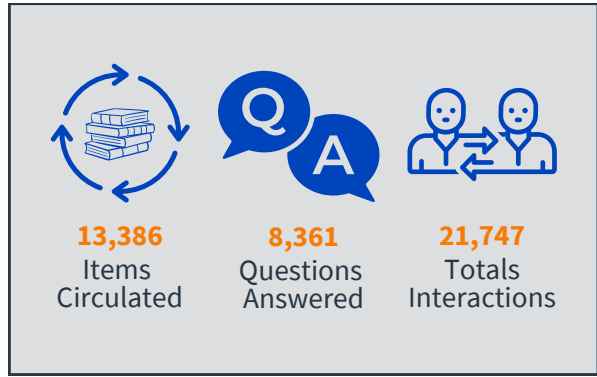
FAST FACTS

JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023

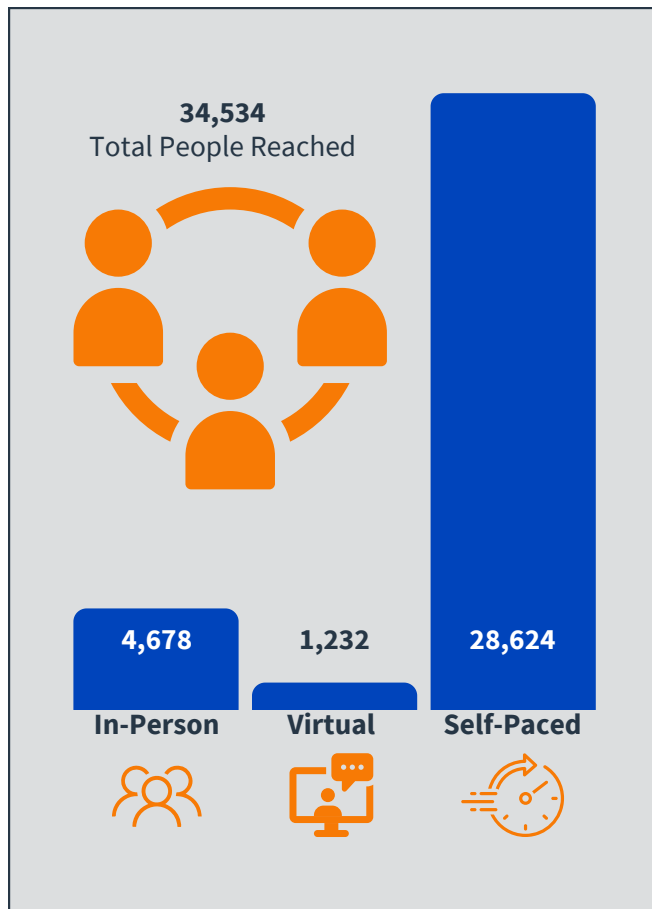
Library Visits



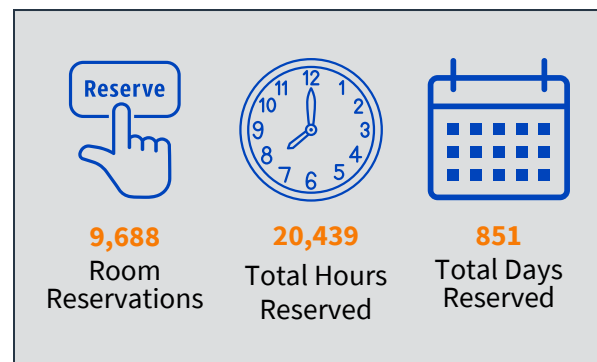
Info Desk Activity



Library Instruction



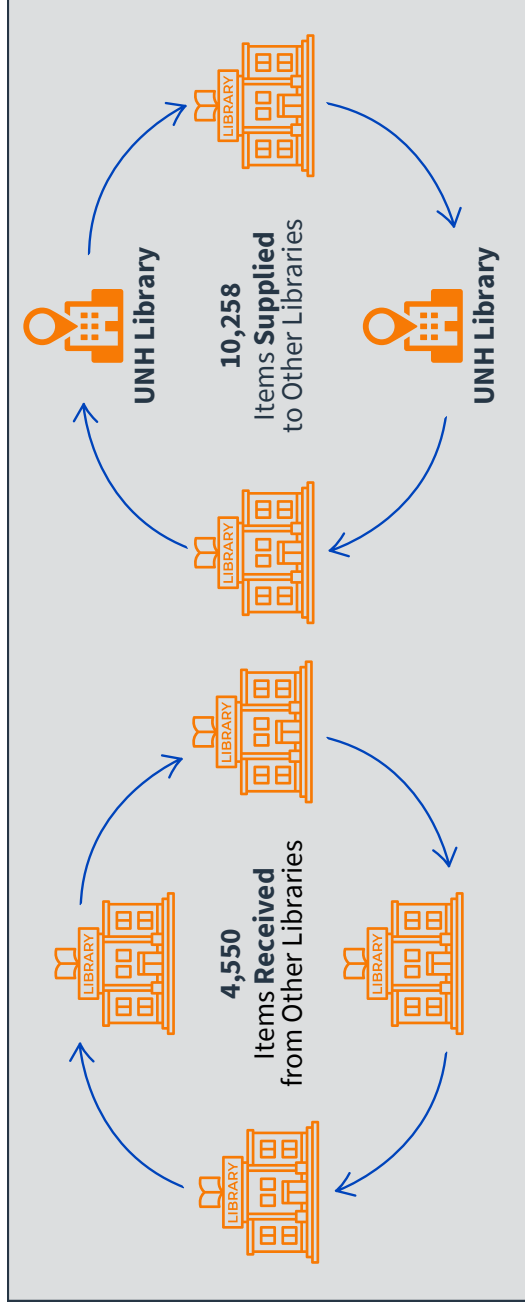
Collaboration Spaces



FAST FACTS

JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023

Interlibrary Loan (ILL)



Research Questions

Total Research Questions
1794

In-Person Questions
583

Virtual Questions
1211

Scholarship

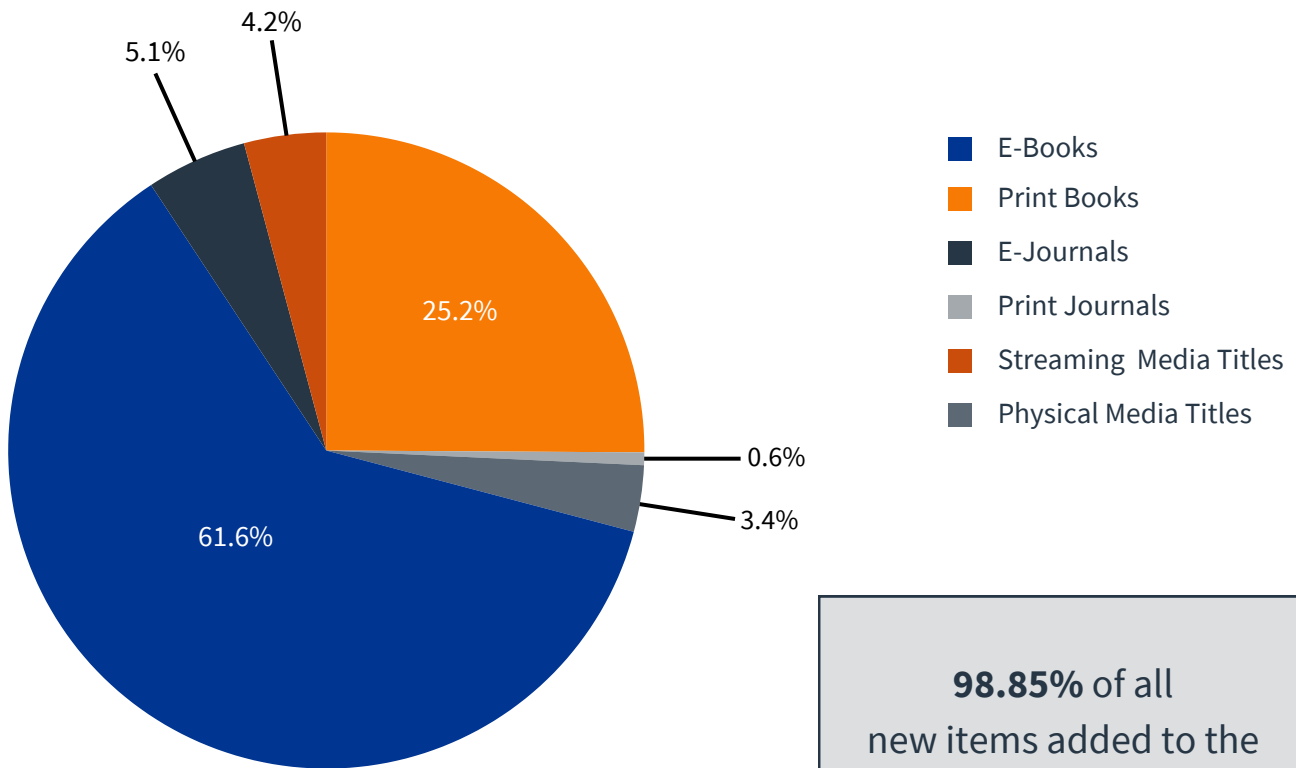
84,352 items in the Scholars Repository were used **1,466,677** times

329 public Research Guides were used **115,128** times

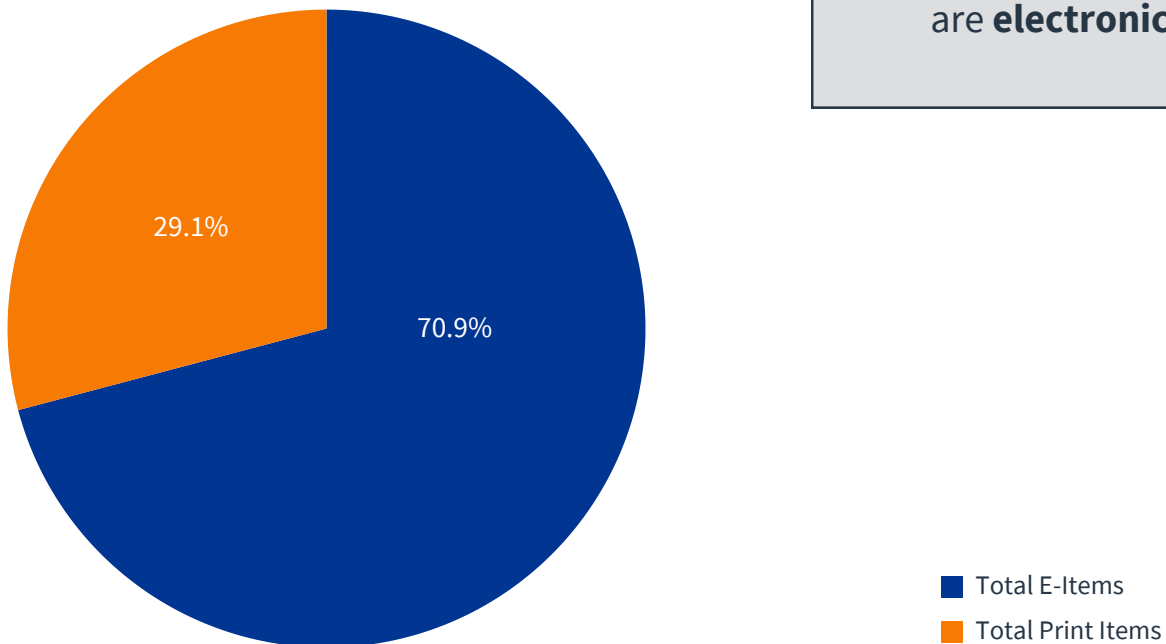
FAST FACTS

JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023

Total Library Collection



98.85% of all new items added to the UNH Library collection are **electronic**.



TOP FIVE...

JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023

DISTINCTIVE COLLECTIONS



Betty and Barney Hill

Amy Cheney Beach

Historical NH Newspapers

William Rosenberg

Lotte Jacobi

REPOSITORY COLLECTIONS



Honors Theses and Capstones

Masters Theses and Capstones

Doctoral Dissertations

UNH Survey Center Polls

Carsey School of Public Policy

RESEARCH GUIDES



Fake News, Misleading Information, and Evaluating Sources

Open Education Resources

UNH Library Research Starter

Nursing

Study Break Resources

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

The **Communication and Outreach** program is responsible for raising awareness about UNH Library's resources, expertise, and spaces. The C&O program works with internal university partners and external community partners, to broaden UNH Library outreach through marketing, social media, print and digital, as well as planning events and exhibits that support the library mission and serve the UNH community.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- **Hired** a Communication Manager with professional expertise in marketing, design, and public relations.
- The UNH Library's Marketing Plan was **further developed** to improve library brand awareness and services.
- Frazzle Free Finals events were **successfully planned and executed** at end of fall and spring semesters to support students through finals with programming and stress-relief activities.
- **Planned and executed** a reception for UNH faculty Emeriti to encourage continued library use.
- **Promoted** the completion of the digitization of all known NH Town Reports as digital archives--a huge UNH Library and New Hampshire borrowing achievement.
- **Planned and executed** programming and tours during UNH Orientation to help new students learn about UNH Library resources.

DIGITAL SERVICES AND IT

The **Digital Services and IT** program is responsible for the production, management, and maintenance of online content, including institutional repository and publication services, digitization and digital asset management, and website content and structure. The program oversees technology provision and infrastructure for the library and its users, ensuring integration across platforms and systems both within the library and across USNH.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- Completed the NH City and Town Reports grant **on time and on budget**, digitizing over 35,000 reports.
- Prepared and sent **3,000 Lotte Jacobi negatives** for digital archiving.
- **Completed the Granite State College merger** to ensure GSC students (now UNH Online students) access to UNH Library resources.
- **Upgraded technology** to improve the scanning and digitization of UNH Library materials and archives.
- **Improved access to several digital collections**, such as Judge Ivorey Cobb, Country Dance and Song Society, UNH Athletic photos, Campus Journal, Faculty Senate, and the Traditional Jazz Series.

FACILITIES

The **Facilities Program** is responsible for developing relevant policies and procedures around the design, implementation, and review of library space as a service, including access to library physical spaces – Dimond Library, three branch Libraries, and the Library Storage Building. Facilities program members initiate and implement projects and coordinate training. We also liaise with Campus Safety, Facilities, and Housekeeping to ensure the safety and security of people and collections.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- The Furniture Refinishing Team, a small task force of facilities program members, **made significant progress** in the large sustainability project to repair/refinish library furniture, rather than replace. By end of FY23, 26 single study carrels, 15 double study carrels, and 119 chairs were repaired and refinished.
- For their work on the sustainability project, **the Furniture's Refinishing Team received a Sustainability award**, awarded by UNH Sustainability Institute.
- **Completed the faculty carrel project** which aimed to remove carrels and create space for HVAC pipe replacement project set for FY26.
- **Replaced lights in Dimond Library with LED lights**, which use less energy and last longer than incandescent bulbs.
- Invested in safety equipment and hosted training for staff to **improve building safety and security**.
- Improved library signage and wayfinding to **increase accessibility**.

FACULTY

The **Library Faculty** program is responsible for providing a structure of coordination, collaboration, and support for the work of the faculty, including but not limited to vision, direction, and development of library policy and programs to provide research support, instruction, collections, and information access to the UNH community.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- **Hired User Engagement/Student Success Librarian** to increase the library's ability to support the needs of diverse student populations.
- **Reviewed two faculty members for tenure promotion.**
- Provided **instruction, workshops, and consultations** to faculty, staff, and students from all colleges.
- **Served on UNH, regional, and national committees.**
- Implemented **new catalog functionality** to improve user experience.
- UNH Library faculty published **18 peer-reviewed research, presented at 20 conferences, and received 1 grant.**

FINANCE

The **Finance** program is responsible for managing the fiscal health of the UNH Library. This work is done by monitoring and maintaining the budget, ensuring that expenditures are within Library and campus guidelines and suggesting ideas to generate revenue.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- Completed FY23 **within budget**.
- Despite challenging budget re-allocations from the university Financial Operations Center (FOC), the library **spent thoughtfully and was able to augment funds** to purchase a considerable number of collection back files.
- Reviewed library-specific financial policies and procedures to **ensure they were current, transparent, and equitable**.
- Worked closely with colleagues in Manchester and Law Libraries to review shared costs and to develop a fair and transparent way to **identify and calculate “fair share” for shared resources and services**.

HUMAN RESOURCES

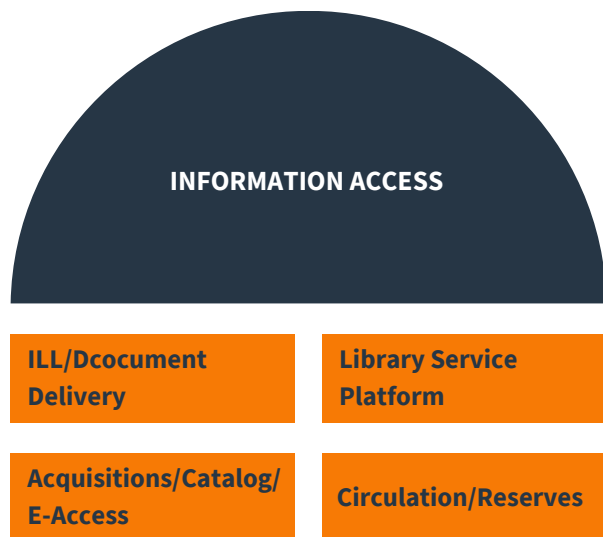
The **Human Resources** program is responsible for coordinating and managing the core functions of the Library employee lifecycle. These functions include supporting recruiting, interviewing, hiring, performance management, employee training, payroll, offboarding, and position development and requesting processes.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- FY23 was the **first full year** the Human Resource program existed in the structure filling a known gap which now provides a “home” responsible for human resources related work within the library structure.
- Reviewed and revised pay scale documents and classifications for student and adjunct staff, including **raising student wages** in line with other campus departments.
- With Heather Castle’s LEAN facilitation skills, **created a detailed plan for addressing the identified needs**, processes, documentation, and work of position lifecycle functions for adjunct and student staff.

INFORMATION ACCESS

The **Information Access** program is responsible for facilitating work that helps users easily find and use the material they need for learning and research. Information Access is comprised of three user-centric programs that continually develop and maintain services that meet user needs and expectations.



Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery provides access to information regardless of where it is housed.

Library Service Platform ensures that the library's system is optimized and accessible.

Acquisitions, Description, and E-Access provides access to materials in all formats.

Circulation and Reserves provides materials circulation at all library locations and develops services for more convenient access.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- **Integrated HathiTrust** full text into library records.
- **Activated the LinkedIn Learning CZ collection**, making LinkedIn Learning training discoverable through the library search box.
- **Implemented the LibKey/Browzine product** adding issues and a table of contents to electronic resources.
- **Updated call numbers** to be more inclusive as part of DEI efforts.
- **Expanded increased access to circulating equipment collection.**
- **Launched free borrowing for all adults living in New Hampshire** in partnership with the University System of New Hampshire (USNH) libraries.
- Continued research toward e-book lending/borrowing to **increase accessibility to online and distant students.**

INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSABILITY (IDEA)

The **IDEA** program is responsible for collaborating with library colleagues, as well as campus partners, to develop library events, training, initiatives, and processes that are grounded in anti-bias, anti-discrimination, and anti-racism.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- **Conducted a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Self-Assessment** to gather information for event/programming/resources UNH Library is already providing, and determine where and how we can grow to better support diverse communities.
- **Led Program Leads to include at least one IDEA goal** in their annual program goals.
- **Shared DEI learning opportunities**, event and workshops with UNH Library colleagues.

LEADERSHIP AND PLANNING

The **Leadership and Planning** program is responsible for directing strategic work, coordinating and spearheading planning, and representing the UNH Library internally at the strategic level internally and externally. The program strives to orchestrate a balanced, appropriate pace of change for an agile, decentralized, and forward-looking organization.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- The Dean presented a **State of the Library Address** and held follow-up conversations to mark the half-way point in our five-year strategic plan.
- **Hired a new Communications Manager** to coordinate and lead our efforts to articulate our contributions to signature UNH work.
- **Successfully negotiation of a new Elsevier contract**, which allows the UNH Library to avoid a year of cancellations and convey the importance of information access.
- **Hosted a reception for UNH emeriti faculty** on June 14, 2023 and used the event as a case study to evolve a process for major event planning, a growing service need of patrons and the UNH community.
- During The (603) Challenge, the UNH Library had a **total 105 donors and raised over \$45,000 total dollars.**

PHYSICAL COLLECTIONS

The **Physical Collections** program is responsible for making physical collections accessible for library users. The program manages the policies, processes, and operations involved in the care, maintenance, shelving or filing, and storage of all physical collection formats in all library locations.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- **Joined ArchivesSpace**, a collections management systems for manuscript and university archives holdings, and started discussion about what is needed for implementation.
- **Improved accessibility in the Special Collections Reading Room** space with the purchase of new chairs.
- **Improved discoverability of unique materials** by identifying and cataloging previously uncatalogued materials.

PROGRAM LEADS

The **Program Leads** program is responsible for using library and university processes to move the work of the UNH Library forward. As a group, program leads work to coordinate the broader work of the library, including assessment and documenting UNH Library value and work collaboratively to realize the library's vision through the program structure as a coordinating group.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- Produced a **library-wide assessment plan**.
- **Developed leadership skills** of program leaders.
- In collaboration with the IDEA Program, **implemented DEI goals across programs for FY24**.

SERVICE POINTS

The **Service Points** program is responsible for delivering and improving UNH Library services, online and in-person, to create a positive and equitable library experience for all.

FY23 TOP TAKEAWAYS

- **Improved the privacy and confidentiality** of patron records and patron contact forms on the library website.
- **Implemented the Info Desk Model**, a merged/unified Information Desk. This model consolidated the work of two desks - the Circulation Desk and the Research Center Desk.

UNH LIBRARY IMPACT

Library Orientation: A New Direction for the UNH Library

Written by Kimberly Sweetman



Photo by Jeremy Gasowski

The first few weeks of the Fall semester are a crucial time for students to build their campus understanding and develop their comfort with campus resources and services. This year, we introduced some beginning of the year activities for new students to learn about the UNH Library, taking advantage of this crucial time to help students to understand the many resources and services we offer, and the significant amount of expertise the library provides that can help to increase student success.

Our goal was to contribute to increased library brand awareness across campus and increase understanding of the library's value among incoming and returning students alike. Identified learning objectives for this project were:

- Increase familiarity and comfort with library spaces and services
- Increase likelihood participants would seek out assistance when needed

On August 28, 2022, in conjunction with UNH's Wildcat Days programming for new students, we offered library tours, library orientation and an informational table. Tabling, tours and sessions continued for the first two weeks of the semester with over 300 people participating!

UNH LIBRARY IMPACT

Archives Help TikTok Sleuth Peg UNH Hockey Cameo in *Gremlins*

Story Originally published in UNH Today by Keith Testa



UNH ARCHIVES PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN HELPING A TIKTOK USER DETERMINE THAT IT WAS A UNH MEN'S HOCKEY GAME PLAYING ON THE TV IN THE BACKGROUND OF THIS SCENE FROM THE 1984 MOVIE GREMLINS.

The image remains in focus for all of about three seconds, but a TikTok user who has gained a massive following for identifying sporting events in the background of movie and TV scenes determined that a UNH men's hockey game appears in the hit 1980s movie *Gremlins* – and he couldn't have done it without help from UNH Archives.

Given that there's a Gremlin swinging from a ceiling fan while his mates gleefully trash a bar in the scene featuring the game, nobody would be blamed for overlooking the quick clip entirely. But a TikTok user challenged @noproblemgambler – who has amassed more than 1 million followers for his creative sleuthing work – to identify the game, saying in his message “No chance you can find the hockey match that plays in *Gremlins* at about 1hr 13 min into the movie.”

Challenge accepted. @noproblemgambler did some impressive investigating and narrowed it down to just two possible contests between UNH and Northeastern – one in 1982 and one in 1983 – but couldn't find a way to discern between them. Until he reached out to UNH and the university archives housed within the UNH Library.

Archives Help TikTok Sleuth Peg UNH Hockey Cameo in *Gremlins* (Cont.)

Morgan Wilson, special collections and archives public services coordinator, fielded the request and sent him the official programs from the two games in question, and by learning which of the two featured an active Northeastern player wearing the No. 4, he was able to conclude that the game was a Feb. 16, 1983 showdown that resulted in an 8-1 romp in favor of the Wildcats.

"It was really exciting and gratifying," Wilson says. "It's what we always strive to do in the archives – to help people find the information they need to answer their questions, whatever they might be. It's satisfying when we're able to provide someone with that final bit of information they need to complete their research. And in this specific case, we helped someone uncover a previously unknown piece of information about UNH – it's always exciting to help discover new knowledge."

Narrowing the list of possibilities to just two games required some remarkable snooping by @noproblemgambler. The clip in question gets blurry very quickly and isn't exactly in high definition – this was the 1980s after all. But based on the look of the footage he was able to assume the game happened somewhere between the mid-1970s and June of 1984, when *Gremlins* was released.

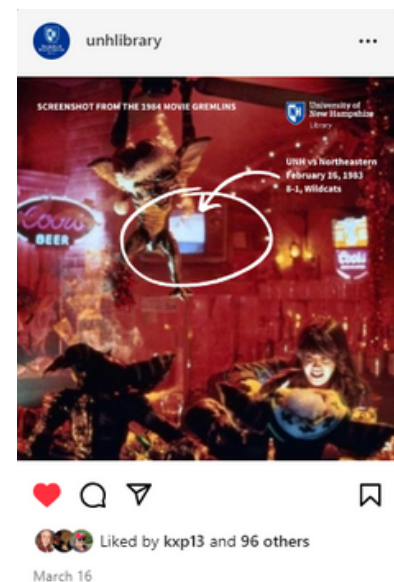
His hockey fandom was key, as he determined that because the rink looked small and relatively unadorned, it was likely a minor league or collegiate hockey venue. He then moved on to trying to match the few jerseys visible, and after extensive searching found that the team in blue-and-white was indeed UNH.

That's when the real detective work began. He found video of a UNH game from that era online, and was able to match a series of doors beyond the playing surface at the end of the rink in that game to the doors visible in the movie clip, confirming the location as UNH's old Snively Arena. He also got lucky, because the team UNH was playing in the game clip he found online was the same opponent in the movie – the Northeastern Huskies.

From there he used characteristics of the uniforms – a solid white stripe on the UNH pants narrowed the window to 1977-1984, and the lack of a No. 13 on the UNH roster in 1980-81 eliminated one more year – to get down to five games played at UNH between the teams. He was then able to use a nameplate style on the back of Northeastern's jerseys to get down to three games before using the pads and helmet visible on the Northeastern goalie in the movie clip to identify the keeper and determine it had to be either the 1982 or 1983 contest.

But that's as far as he got until he reached out to UNH. There's little chance he would have been able to push the investigation across the finish line were it not for the game programs provided by the university archives.

"Honestly, I didn't know until afterward what the request was for – we get a lot of sports-related questions in the archives, from both alumni and college sports fans, so I figured this was similar. But this is definitely a first for me," Wilson says of providing a key assist in a viral TikTok post. "I encourage folks to come to the archives for any research help they might need. Even if we don't have the material you're looking for, we're usually able to point you in the right direction. No question is too small or strange – in fact, the stranger the better!"



UNH LIBRARY IMPACT

UNH Library Digitizes Town Reports for Entire Granite State

Story Originally published in UNH Today by Keith Testa



MULTI-YEAR PROJECT INCLUDES EVERY CITY AND TOWN IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

The UNH Library recently wrapped up a massive multi-year project that digitized and organized all known annual reports for every town in New Hampshire, an undertaking that essentially reached every municipality, past and present, throughout the state.

The [New Hampshire City and Town Annual Reports Collection](#) now boasts 35,491 volumes, including more than 20,000 added during the most recent blitz that began in 2021 thanks in part to a grant from the New Hampshire State Library.

When that portion of the project began, 20 of the 234 New Hampshire cities and towns were not represented in the digital collection. All 20 of those towns were added during the recent push, as was content from an additional eight village precincts and two extinct towns.

Given the reach throughout the entire state the project aligns perfectly with Embrace New Hampshire, one of four strategic priorities UNH President Jim Dean outlined for the university in January of 2019.

“We have touched every town in the state, including some towns that don’t even exist anymore, and that is going to have some really lasting impacts on our reputation as an institution that reaches out to New Hampshire,” Eleta Exline, scholarly communication librarian and the principal investigator on the project, says.

UNH Library Digitizes Town Reports for Entire Granite State (Cont.)

The completion of the project was more than 10 years in the making, as the library performed an initial wave of digitizing reports years ago. But the recent grant provided the momentum to push things across the finish line, creating a repository that should prove beneficial even beyond the borders of the state.

“A project of this magnitude takes many partners and many years to come together, and we were honored to work with the New Hampshire State Library with funding from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, as well as with the Internet Archive, to digitize these historical records,” Tara Fulton, dean of the UNH Library, says. “Now anyone can go to the internet and visit the UNH Scholars Repository to browse New Hampshire town reports, and they can also search for specific information by year or by topic. That’s what libraries do – we collect information sources, preserve them, and use the latest technologies to make them accessible.”

Adds Kimberly Sweetman, associate dean of the UNH Library: “While the UNH library’s primary mission is to support the research and learning needs of our campus community, it’s also important for us to serve the citizens of New Hampshire. We are also providing a rich resource to researchers all over the world.”



MOLLY GEARHART '24 WORKING ON THE TOWN REPORT PROJECT.

The project called for making accessible all known annual reports from the UNH Library and New Hampshire State Library collections. As a result of the grant, a total of 20,606 volumes were added since 2021, including 18,879 volumes that were scanned and 1,727 retrieved from city and town websites, a process that was not without significant manual labor.

UNH Library Digitizes Town Reports for Entire Granite State (Cont.)

The library collected and organized the reports, then prepared them for scanning that was performed at the Internet Archive scanning center at the Boston Public Library, meaning all reports had to be driven from the New Hampshire State Library to the UNH library, before being inventoried, wrapped and shipped to Boston, where they were given a unique bar code.

From there, every page was scanned – manually – and bundled into individual PDFs for each volume. UNH student workers would then download the volumes, create descriptive records and upload them to the university archives.

More than 1 million pages were scanned.

The team working on the project included library staff and students, as Exline and Sarah Stinson, [digital collections](#) coordinator at the UNH Library, spearheaded a mission that also featured Nikki Hentz, [Scholars' Repository](#) coordinator, Elizabeth Slomba, university archivist, and Emeline Dehn, archives and special collections manager, as well as Angela Constantian '21 and Sophia Zydell '22, who began as work-study students while attending UNH.

Student assistants Molly Gearhart '24, Ella Truesdale '23, Jake MacInnis '24, Grace McNally '23 and Melissa Bauer '23G all contributed, as well.

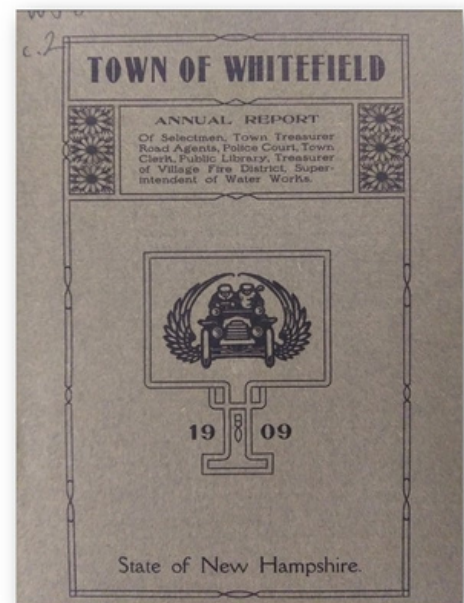
“All of us were touching this material multiple times during the process to make sure everything was being done the right way,” says Stinson. “This was a great project that really pushed me as a project manager – at times it was a big, confusing puzzle. I’m excited to see how people use it. The ways it can be utilized are pretty limitless.”

The digitized reports are a vital resource for town clerks, in particular, Stinson noted, as they often need quick access to historical town data. State agencies, such as the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, have also benefited from easy access (a [usage dashboard](#) has been created to map those accessing the materials, with DHHS recording more than 2,000 downloads.)

In totality, the collection provides a digital record of each town’s unique history as told through budgets and vital statistics. Even the covers of some of the reports offered enlightening glimpses into the past, Stinson said, as changes in fonts, styles and imagery distinctly represented different eras.

The collection isn’t done growing, either. The library will reach out to all the town clerks and provide access to a digital drop box, so they can continue adding PDFs when each new annual report is available.

“UNH is really the only library in the state in a position to be able to launch this kind of collection, and certainly the only public institution library with the systems and people in place to be able to do this kind of project,” Exline says. “It highlights our role as a library that functions as a resource for the university but also in many ways for the public.



THE COVER OF THE 1909 WHITEFIELD TOWN REPORT, COMPLETE WITH AN AUTOMOBILE GRAPHIC.

UNH LIBRARY IMPACT

Living History of the LGBTQIA+ Legacy

Story Originally published in UNH Today by Keith Testa



Photo by Jeremy Gasowski

A group of students had a chance to study living history this spring when, using valuable resources in the UNH Archives, they researched the history of the struggle for LGBTQIA+ rights — right here on campus.

With the help of Archivist Elizabeth Slomba and Public Services Coordinator Morgan Wilson, students were able to sift through dozens of documents and primary sources of the fight to establish a Gay Students Organization on campus.

“It was a great experience for us to be able to do this academic research at the UNH Library where the staff was so open, so happy that we were there, and so eager to celebrate the work we were doing,” says professor Holly Cashman, who is also chair of the Languages, Literatures and Cultures Department and a professor in women’s and gender studies.

Anna Rhoda '25, undergraduate teaching practicum assistant for the class, told the audience that the 26 students in Cashman’s course had spent the semester scouring primary sources from the 1970s on the creation of the Gay Students Organization, the controversy and media coverage, the reaction from the governor and the subsequent lawsuit that resulted in the affirmation of the rights of students to form an organization, and the history of the pancake breakfast.

Living History of the LGBTQIA+ Legacy (Cont.)

Students also presented at the Live Free symposium that same week, featuring student exhibitions from five different campuses around the state. The event, sponsored by the UNH College of Liberal Arts Global Racial and Social Inequality Lab (GRSIL) and the New Hampshire Humanities Collaborative (NHHC), focused on the idea of freedom through the lens of social justice.

For journalism students, the history of the GSO and its coverage in the media was particularly interesting.

For Bridget McSweeney '24, the realization that despite progress made in equal rights, there is still work to be done was an important one. “People assume this was so much further in the past, but in some ways, it’s not — we’ve been researching the high number of anti-transgender bills currently circulating. So the homophobia and transphobia are still happening, but maybe just not as loud.”



Photo by Samantha Bradbury Koster

UNH STUDENTS PRESENT THEIR RESEARCH TO ATTENDEES AT THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Her classmate, April Towne '25, agrees, noting that as a journalism student, it was fascinating to compare the media coverage in the student newspaper and other statewide outlets with media coverage of LGBTQIA+ issues today. In anti-trans legislation today, says Towne, there are “definitely parallels” to the way those who are anti-trans or anti-queer people construct their arguments.

The close-to-home nature of studying LGBTQIA+ rights through the lens of UNH history was engaging to her students, says Cashman — especially getting to chat with returning alumni like Paul Tosi '74 and Wayne April '74.

She says it was moving to see that the university was embracing the commemoration of the events. The legacy is one to celebrate, as President James Dean Jr. said at the breakfast, but still “a legacy rooted in deep adversity.”

“I’ll admit there was some question mark about what the reaction would be of the greater university community,” says Cashman. “But it became very clear at breakfast: The reaction was to celebrate how incredible these students in the early 1970s were, how brave they were and how they were able to see a future that no one else was seeing at the time.”

UNH LIBRARY IMPACT

Eight Library Workers Recognized at UNH Sustainability Awards

Story Originally published in UNH Library blog by Zach Lewis



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DARLEEN SMITH (UNH PRINTING AND MAILING SERVICES), TRACEY LAUDER (UNH LIBRARY), ZACK LEWIS (UNH LIBRARY), JENNIFER DALY (UNH LIBRARY).

On May 9, 2023, members from UNH Library leadership, faculty, and staff were recognized under multiple award categories at the UNH Sustainability Awards Ceremony.

The Sustainability Awards celebrates and spotlights faculty, staff, and students doing important sustainability research, curriculum development and teaching, campus initiatives and culture development, and external engagement work across and beyond the university. UNH Library was the recipient of three nominations and two awards.

UNH Sustainability has stated that these awards, “raise the visibility of these activities and achievements to help build a deep culture of sustainability that permeates all facets of our institution and community and how we work.”

These awards honor the effort given to following the designs of the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which, “advance human dignity for all people and ecological integrity in all places, and to emphasize the inextricable links between human dignity, ecological health, participatory democracy, and intergenerational equity.”

Eight Library Workers Recognized at UNH Sustainability Awards (Cont.)

The first UNH Library award recipient was Associate Professor, Business and Economics librarian Wendy Pothier, whose faculty award was under the curriculum category. Wendy stated she, “worked closely with the Paul College FIRE (First-Year Innovation and Research Experience) program to create a research guide that helped the first-year business students learn about the SDGs and incorporate them as they researched their business plans this year.”

Pothier also created a comprehensive sustainability resource guide for Paul College staff and faculty to use in their curriculum along with support materials for their teaching. Pothier noted, “Through this, we added several key materials to the UNH Library collection that support business research towards a more sustainable future.”

While her award-winning work was focused in the UNH curriculum, her work reaches beyond the university. Pothier said, “I had the opportunity to share this work with the International EntreLib (Entrepreneurship and Libraries) conference as an example of ways that libraries can support the social entrepreneurship ecosystem and incorporate the SDGs into our work as librarians.”

The UNH Library Furniture Repurposing Project team won a sustainability award under the campus culture and operations within the staff category. The members involved included Assistant Dean for Library Administration Tracey Lauder, Senior Administrative Assistant for Library Administration Jennifer Daly, Information Desk Manager Donald Dow, Evening Library Services Specialist Zach Lewis, and Director of Athletics Development Kevin Connolly.

The UNH Library Furniture Repurposing Project team was spearheaded by Tracey Lauder. In collaboration with local business NorthShore Refinishing, the library contributed to our, “circular economy and reduction in waste by repurposing

and reinvesting in the current furniture.” 187 chairs, 26 carrels, and \$40,000 were saved in this sustainable project. Tracey Lauder remarked that “it was a real team effort, and I am grateful that UNH is so committed to sustainability.” Lauder added she was, “happy we were able to contribute to their success in this endeavor.”

The UNH Library Digital Services Program members were also recognized as Sustainability Champions through their nominations. This program includes Scholarly Communication Librarian Eleta Exline, Institutional Repository Coordinator Nikki Codgill, and Digital Collections Coordinator Sarah Stinson. They were nominated for their continued effort to support the development of the library's Digital Collections. Exline commented, “Our Digital Services teams works to provide unrestricted access to local cultural heritage and research collections. Anyone with an internet connection can use these collections without having to visit in person or schedule an appointment. It was great to be nominated for this contribution to sustainable practices at UNH.

The UNH Library is committed to progressing forward in all ways possible to further the goals of the university.



Photo by Rebecca Chasse

WENDY POTHIER, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS LIBRARIAN

UNH LIBRARY IMPACT

Free Borrowing from USNH Libraries for NH Residents

Written by Samantha Bradbury Koster



Photo by Jake Kitterman

NH RESIDENTS CAN ACCESS OVER 3 MILLION PHYSICAL AND DIGITAL ITEMS AT USNH LIBRARIES

As of July 1, 2023, the University System of New Hampshire campus libraries at the University of New Hampshire Durham and Manchester campuses, Keene State College, and Plymouth State University are offering free borrowing services to NH residents.

Free borrowing to NH residents opens opportunities for research, education, and continued learning alongside resources already available through local public libraries and Interlibrary Loan services. While NH patrons have had access to campus library spaces such as reading rooms, and resources such as public computers, microfiche and microfilm machines, scanners, etc., free borrowing offers more flexibility to patrons using USNH library services.

“We welcome visitors to our campus libraries, and now we are extending free loans of books and other physical objects to Granite State residents. We hope more people will take advantage of the wealth of information available at our public college and university libraries across the state,” says Tara Lynn Fulton, Dean of the UNH Library.

“My fascination with libraries has followed me – and served me well – from early childhood, through universities, careers, and now in retirement,” says Eleanor Lonske, a local Durham resident. “After retiring to Hebron, I audited courses at Plymouth State University and made good

Free Borrowing from USNH Libraries for NH Residents (Cont.)

use of its library as well as the Town of Plymouth Library. I now live at Riverwoods-Durham where I borrow books from its library, the Durham Public Library, and the UNH Library where I have checked out books both for UNH courses I have been auditing and for pure pleasure reading.”

“I have led book discussions in NH libraries for many years, and I did as much research for them as I had done for my college classes. The UNH library has more academic books than our local library,” says Jennifer Lee, former English faculty member of UNH and a local Durham resident. “These UNH books allowed me to present greater background and critical information on the books and authors being discussed. Many NH residents, college graduates or not, are lifelong learners, and will be grateful for the larger resources a university library offers. And these resources include the helpful reference librarians.”

In addition to free borrowing services, USNH libraries give access to special collections and archives that are unique to the institution, such as the internationally famous [Betty and Barney Hill papers](#) located at Dimond Library at the UNH Durham campus, or the [Charles and Judith Hildebrandt Collection](#) at Mason Library at KSU, which supports the Holocaust and Genocide Studies academic program—the only undergraduate program in the United States of its kind.

NH residents eighteen years or older can obtain library cards from USNH campuses with a valid ID and proof of residency. To access special and digital collections, archives, and research databases NH residents must be in person at their USNH library of choice.



NH RESIDENT CHARLIE BARLOW GETS HIS FREE BORROWING CARD FOR UNH LIBRARY.

UNH LIBRARY IMPACT

EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING IN DIMOND LIBRARY

August 2022

UNH Library Orientation Programming

September 2022

Constitution Week Exhibit

Uday

October 2022

Sextober Resource Table

Personal Palettes Exhibit Installation

SHARPP Denim Day Table

Family Weekend Programming

Open Access Week Programming

November 2022

Hostile Terrain 94 Exhibit Installation
(Anthropology Partnership)

December 2022

Frazzle Free Finals

January 2023

Exhibit Installation: *The Beat on the Street: Second Lines, Mardi Gras Indians*

February 2023

Black History Month Programming and Book Displays

March 2023

Women's History Month Programming and Book Displays

Student Art Installations

Open Education Week

Accepted Students Day Programming

Collegiate Recovery Table

April 2023

Poetry Month Displays

Accepted Students Day Programming

The (603) Challenge

Planned Parenthood Collection Box

SHARPP Resource Table

Money Smart Week Programming

National Library Workers Day

May 2023

Commute Smart

Frazzle Free Finals

June 2023

UNH 50th Class Reunion Dinner

Alumni Tours

Incoming Honor Students Orientation Tours

UNH LIBRARY IMPACT

EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING IN DIMOND LIBRARY



GIVING TO THE UNH LIBRARY

MONETARY DONATIONS

The UNH Library depends on philanthropic support to enrich the educational and research endeavors of students and scholars. This support include purchasing new special collection and archive materials; purchasing new e-books/print books and journals, planning and executing events and programming, equipment and tech improvements, space improvements, and so much more.

Scan the QR Code to make a gift to support the UNH Library.



GIFT DONATIONS

The UNH Library is always expanding the Milne Special Collections and University Archives. In addition to purchasing new collection items with monetary gift donations, we also accept donations in the form of historical New Hampshire collections such as clothing, books, fishing and agricultural gear, art and family papers. Gift donations help the UNH Library support our mission of providing access to unique materials for researchers around the world.

Scan the QR Code to connect with the Milne Special Collections and University Archives about your historical collection.



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